

# Get the Facts:

# Sustainability California High-Speed Rail

## **Myth: Building High-Speed Rail Causes More Pollution Than it Will Save.**

FACT: Contract requirements dictate our construction sites have significantly better air quality than the California average. Our contractors use tier 4 off-road vehicles and technology to reduce nitrogen dioxide emissions.

**Site emissions are 60 percent lower than the state average.**

## **Myth: High-Speed Rail Causes Sprawl**

FACT: \$8 million in funding has been awarded for station area planning efforts, which will help create thriving and sustainable station area districts.

**Planning among key cities creates meaningful connections and economic opportunities.**

## **Myth: Investing Cap-and-Trade Proceeds In High-Speed Rail Has Produced No Results.**

FACT: Cap-and-Trade funding has helped create 1.5 billion dollars of activity in disadvantaged communities and specifically added 1,064 jobs in priority communities. Of the 427 small businesses participating in the high-speed rail program, 115 are located in disadvantaged communities.

**There are already 2,000 workers on site building high-speed rail.**

## **Myth: High-Speed Will be a Drain on the Power Grid.**

FACT: High-speed rail will run on electricity supplied entirely from renewable sources.

**The Authority is committed to using 100 percent renewable energy to operate our trains and facilities.**

## **Myth: California Could Make Better Transportation Investments.**

FACT: High-Speed Rail is a critical part of California's sustainable transportation network.

**The goals of high-speed rail are reducing congestion and pollution while improving mobility and increasing access to jobs and affordable housing.**

As California's population rises and our economy continues to grow, high-speed rail is the only mode that meets every one of these goals.

## **Myth: High-Speed Rail Does Nothing to Reduce Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Now.**

FACT: At this very moment rail crossings throughout northern and southern California are being upgraded or eliminated. This reduces traffic congestion, improves safety and cuts GHG emissions from idling vehicles.

**A single rail crossing can cause up to 45 days of stopped traffic per year, which results in about 1,800 tons of GHG emissions annually.**



For more information and construction updates visit [www.hsr.ca.gov](http://www.hsr.ca.gov)